

Looking for an unusual gift?

Disaster Kits in a Bucket Benefit Elderly, Families, Students

What do you give the parent, elderly neighbor, family or college student that has everything? This year, make them a Disaster Kit in a 5-gallon Bucket. The disaster bucket is small enough to tuck inside a pantry yet compact and light enough to carry in your car during a trip. Best of all you are giving your friends and family members emergency supplies at their fingertips.

Emergency management organizations encourage citizens to keep disaster supplies, emergency food and water on hand in case of flood, power outage, tornado or earthquake. Unfortunately, few families and sadly fewer senior citizens will spend the money to buy numerous supplies the American Red Cross recommends keeping in a special 20 gallon container.

All of the items on the checklist may be easily found in discount retail stores in the camping and health departments. In addition to the kit, your loved ones need to have food and water on hand to ride out a power outage or other disaster. The Disaster Kits in a Bucket is the brainchild of Charlotte Craig, Director of the Cape Girardeau County Health Department.

Disaster Kit in a Bucket content list

All of the following items will fit into a five-gallon bucket. The items are: 1 roll of toilet paper, 1 camp stove, 2 cans of Sterno, 1 mess kit, 4 boxes of water proof matches, 6 books of regular matches, 12 paper plates, 6 each plastic forks, knives and spoons, 12 disposable drinking cups, 1 flashlight, 2 AD batteries, 2 emergency solar blankets, 12 hand/foot warmers, 6 heavy duty plastic bags, 12 hand sanitizer packets, 2 light sticks, 1 roll of duct tape, 1 pocket (utility) knife, 1 hand can opener, a two punch can opener, 2 combs, 1 tube toothpaste, 2 toothbrushes and 1 first aid kit.

The first aid kit contents are as follows: 6 pairs plastic gloves, an 8 oz bottle contact lens saline (to irrigate and clean wounds), 6 knuckle band-aids, 6 regular band-aids, 6 Telfa pads, 1 roll tape, 1 tube antibiotic ointment, 3 burn gel packets, 6 wound wipes (Providone-Iodine), 2 stretch gauze, 2 instant ice compress, 6 packets each of buffered aspirin and non-aspirin pain reliever, 1 each scissors and tweezers, a 4 oz bottle of Hydrogen Peroxide, and 6 sanitary napkins (can be used to dress a large wound).